Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method for scanning a photographic film using a scanner, comprising the steps of:

performing a pre-scan of the film;

sampling a color density of at least one location of the film;

comparing the color density to a standard range indicating an orange bias for the at least one location; and

setting the scanner to treat the film as a negative if the color density is within the standard range and to otherwise treat the film as a positive.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the standard range is a mix of red, green, and blue in relative proportions, in an 8-bit system,

the red is greater than 150;

the green is greater than 75; and

the blue is less than 50.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color density is determined for each of red, green and blue.

4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the color density for each of the red, green and blue is averaged for the red, green and blue, respectively, for each of the at least one locations and the average is employed in the step of comparing.

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A system for distinguishing between positive film and negative film, the films exhibit a red, a green, and a blue illumination characteristic, comprising:

a scanner, including a sensor operable to detect the red, the green, and the blue;

an analog output from the sensor indicative of the red, the green, and the blue;

an analog-to-digital converter, connected to the sensor, for receiving the analog output;

a digital output from the analog-to-digital converter, connected to the analog-to-digital converter;

a microprocessor system, including a microprocessor and a memory, connected to the digital output;

a logic module, connected to the microprocessor system, wherein the logic module determines relative densities of the red, the green, and the blue and determines orange bias levels, in order to distinguish between positive film and negative film; and

a control connection, connected to the microprocessor system and the scanner, reactive to relative densities determination and orange bias level determinations by the logic module to trigger the scanner to implement a setting of the scanner to treat a film as positive film and negative.

8. (previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the logic module compares the relative densities to determine that the film is negative film, if the relative densities in an 8-bit system are:

red greater than 150;

green greater than 75; and

blue less than 50; and

the control connection signals the scanner to treat the film as negative film.

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (previously presented) A method of preparing a scanner to scan a photographic film that may be a positive or negative film type, comprising the steps of:

measuring respective color densities of three different color hues, red, green and blue, in the photographic film;

comparing the color densities to a standard range which indicates an orange bias that is high enough to represent a negative film type; and

triggering the scanner to treat the photographic film as a negative type automatically when the color densities are within the standard range and to otherwise treat the photographic film as a positive type automatically when the color densities are not within the standard range.

18. (currently amended) A method of preparing a scanner to scan a photographic film that may be a positive or negative film type, comprising the steps of:

measuring color ~~chararacteristics~~ characteristics of the photographic film;

determining whether the color characteristics are within a particular range that indicates an orange bias high enough to represent a negative film type and not a positive film type; and triggering the scanner to treat the photographic film as a negative type automatically when the color densities are within the particular range and to otherwise treat the photographic film as a positive type automatically when the color densities are not within the particular range.